Fron County Begister

BY ELI D. AKE. BONTON. . MISSOURL

AMERICAN DIANAS.

Women Who Shoot with Rifles and Double-Barreled shotguns.

The favorite shotgun of the markswoman is double-barreled and made after the pattern used by Miss Annie Oakley. The stock is of different shape from the ordinary gun to accommodate the shorter neck and arms, and the weapon is much lighter. The barrels are 27 inches long or thereabouts, and are often beautifully figured. The weight is any where from 4 pounds to 54 pounds, about 51 pounds being recommended. The bore ordinarilly is 20. It shoots three-fourths of an ounce of fine shot ahead of 2 drachms of Schultz powder, which gives very little recoil. It has a killing circle of 30 inches in diameter at 30 yards, costs from \$100 to \$250, and is usually made to order to suit the strength and figure. A woman is measured about as accurately for a fine shotgun as for a gown. A lower Broadway dealer who has built more guns, in all probability, for the use of women than any other man in America, has a blank form to be filed in with the height length from armpit to tips of fingers, width from point of one shoulder to point of the other, chest measure, fullbreasted or otherwise. In addition to these particulars, if the gun is ordered by the sportswoman in person he always gives her one to handle, getting points as to bends and weights from observation of her carriage. Mrs. Pierre Lorillard, who has an

excelent reputation for coolness in the field and skill, owns some fine weapons. Mrs. Cleveland has a pretty 12bore, which was a gift to her on the eve of one of the Adirondack vacations, but which she has not often used. It weighs 51 pounds, and the barrels are of full weight and strength and of the handsomest finish possible. It requires less skill to kill a partridge with it than when a smaller bore is used, and hence the light 12-bore is quite a favorite among women, at least in their first season's shooting. Bertha Von Hillern, who won quite a reputation for herself as a pedestrian, is an excelent shot, and uses a single-barreled gun, which is of 28-caliber and weighs a trifle under four pounds. Miss A. Becket, the artist, who for many years shared Miss Von Hillern's mountain studio in Virginia, is also an accurate markswoman and oots with a double-barreled gun of 36-caliber. It is told of the pair that one day while they were shooting at a target in the Blue Ridge mountains a party of mountaineers lounged up and watched the practice, challenging the ladies to a test of skill. The men were armed with old-fashioned Kentucky rifles, while the two artists had modern breech-loaders. The mountaineers were invited to set up a target to suit themselves, and chose a distance of 100 yards. They shot well, but the women were in good training and the impromptu match ended in a draw. A woman who is credited with almost as much skill with the gun as in snap shots with the detective camera is the wife of ex-Senator Platt.

The rifle, the weapon of precision. is used by fewer women, though numbers of the old make of the Remingtons are still in circulation. The Marquise de Mores brought down some game during her ranching experiences in Dakota. Her rifle had a short stock. was of 32 caliber, with 24-inch barrel, and weighed not over 51 pounds. The breech mechanism was simple, and it was told of her that first she photographed from horse-back a scene of animal which was its focus of interest down. More shot at a mark than at game, but the exodus to England every summer and the sight of their cousins across the water regularly taking stands at the butts during a grouse drive, and bringing the game to bag with the skill of veterans, is having its influence on American women. Good double shot-guns are beyond the purses of any but the rich, but good single-shot rifles are cheap enough to enable any body who is not satisfied with her eyes as deadly weapons to kill in a more effective way.-N. Y. Mail and Express.

A KNOCK-OUT BLOW.

How an Italian Was Made to Realize the Error of His Ways.

Just above the hotel there is a bootblack's stand presided over by an Italian. There are men who wear shoes, even at the sea shore, and these men must get a shine at least twice per day to keep their shoes looking presentable. On the first day of his arrival, a Pennsylvanian took the chair for a shine, and in paying his dime and making change there was some mistake and a dispute as to five

"I no helpa-no helpa!" protested the Italian, with many a shrug. "Do you mean to swindle me out of that nickel?"

"I no helpa!" "Hand over that nickle or I will take

an awful revenge!" "No helpa-no helpa!"

The man had three friends at the hozel. He told them the story, and they started up town together. When they returned each had on a brand new pair

"See here, old Italy, let's figure a bit," said the spokesman as they halted at the stand. "Here are four of us. That's an average of at last five shines a day for the forty days we shall be here. Two hundred shines at ten cents apiece figures up just twenty dollars. You beat us out of a nickle and lost a saw-buck. How much are you

ahead?" And the Italian stood there with his mouth open and his hair crawling up on end, and all he could say was: "Wheef! Dat was one hossa on me, eh!"-Detroit Free Presa.

LUKE MASON.

A Thrilling and Romantic Story of the Late Civil War.

BY JOHN R. MUSICK. AUTHOR OF "BROTHER AGAINST BROTHER," "HELEN LAKEMAN" " WALTER BROWN-FIELD," "BANKER OF BEDFORD,"

[Copyrighted, 1889.]

CHAPTER XIV .- CONTINUED. Luke spurred his horse forward, and had just come in sight of a garden fence, when there came a crash, and over and through the rotten pickets plunged three horsemen in gray uniforms. Colonel Mason was only a few rods from them, and fired a revolver

as they disappeared into a thicket. "Fire! don't let them escape," he shouted, spurring his horse in the thicket after the fleeing men. Twenty muskets beiched forth their deadly contents into the wood. The bullets shattered the trees, cut off the leaves in showers, but the three Confederates still thundered ahead, evidently un-

In his eagerness to capture them, Colonel Mason never stopped to consider that he was only one man on horseback, the remainder of his staff being in another place.

An occasional glimpse of the fleeing gray coats spurred him on, and he drove his horse at the top of his speed through the woods. Two or three times he fired his revolver, but owing to intervening trees and the speed at which they were traveling he

They were fully three-fourths of a mile from the house when the sharp report of a rifle broke on the air, and the foremost horse and rider went down. A white puff of smoke from behind a tree marked the place from whence the shot had been fired. The horse pitched his rider over his head. throwing him with such force against a tree as to stun him.

Colonel Mason was astonished at the shot. for he knew none of his men were near enough to have fired it, but he never for a moment slackened his speed. As his horse flew through the woods, leaping logs and whizzing past trees, he saw the fallen rebel trying to rise, the blood streaming from a cut in his forehead, caused by his fall against

A large, powerful negro bounded from a thicket with a blood-curdling yell, and clubbing his rifle ran upon the fallen man to dash out his brains. Down came the gun as a curse of vengeance escaped the black, but at the instant it fell a horseman was alongside and a sword was thurst forward ward-

"What! would you kill a wounded man?" "God a'mighty, massa, don't stand in my

way!" cried the negro, panting with rage.

WHAT! WOULD YOU KILL A WOUNDED MAN! "Foh twenty-two ya's I is been a prayin' to de debil to give me a chance to kill dat man,

an' I'll kill-I hate him !- I hate him!" In the momentary glances Colonel Mason had been able to give the belligerents, he discovered that the white man was Dick Sneed and the negro Blackhawk. Never had he seen such a picture of rage and fury more like some ravenous beast than a picket line. human, his eyes almost started from their sockets, he was foaming at the mouth and he had gnashed his teeth until the froth

about his lips had grown crimson. "Blackhawk, you shall not kill a helpless man," cried the Colonel, flinging himself from his horse before the furious negro. "I will, by- I'll kill um if I hab to kill

you fust.' Luke had not considered what a furious madman he had to deal with until the negro aimed a blow at his head, which, if he had not parried it with his sword, would have killed him on the spot. With such force was the blow given that it shivered his trusty blade. Luke was almost as furious of the heavy weapon that be sent him down to the earth insensible. Turning to Dick Sneed he found him on

"Here, Dick, quick, mount my horse and if he ever lays eyes on you.

He lifted the still dazed man in the saddle and started the horse away at a gallop, which the Confederate kept up until out of sight. Luke then turned toward Blackhawk, who was just getting up. Not knowing what the black might do, he cocked his pistol, intending to shoot him, should it solemn voice said:

"Kill me, massa, and de secret ob yo' birf He was cool and reasonable once more, and Luke lowered his revolver, astonished at comrade, bending over him. "Haint yer the strange words so solemnly uttered. | got no word t' send home. Oh speak, Joe, Colonel Mason stood for a moment stupe- jest one word. Tell me that ye know me.' fied, and then demanded:

"What do you mean!" "I kin tell ye mo' 'bout yerse'f dan ye knows, massa; but I'll not tell ye now." Yes, you will." Luke's teeth were set, his eyes glaring with intensity, and he was panting with excitement. "If you know any thing of this mystery of my life I will have it, if I have to wring it from you." "I won't tell you now-'fore God I won't tell 's long as dat man lives; when he dies

I tole ve. "Tell me now or die." He raised the pistol. The negro, knowing that he held the winning card, coolly folded his arms across his breast, and, facing the furious officer, said:

"Shoot, massa, an' de trufe you'll nebber know. Colonel Mason turned aside, his heart very faint and a mist coming over his eyes. He leaned for a moment against a tree for support, and when he next looked at the negro he had picked up his gun and

was coolly walking away. Luke returned to his command and with what prisoners they had captured they returned to their quarters near Shiloh Church. He deemed it best to tell nothing of his adventure with Blackhawk and Sneed, for it seemed to be one link in the dark mystery of his own life.

CHAPTER XV. A SURPRISE

proached the Union lines, showing that an But this soldier was too far gone to even under him. On the 4th of April his cavalry dashed shorter, and already the rigidity of death down and captured a small picket guard of seemed to steal over his frame. The feeble stand if possible. A shell exploded but a six or seven men who were stationed some struggle for breath at last ceased. The few paces away and five or six of his men five or six miles out on the Pittsburgh and grim battle was over, and the soldier was in fell from it. His Lieutentant-Colonel lay Cornth road. Colonel Buckland with a the Beyond. regiment pursued the Confederates, and General Sherman moved a brigade three camp for burial," said the Colonel.

retreated, of course, and many were the

Many held that the attacks and skirmishes along the front were only intended to detract them from their march on Corinth. But whatever may have been the opinions of the subordinate officers, it was evident that General Grant believed that their entire front was threat ened, for he ordered his army to entrench and did all in his power to hurry up Buell. General Grant was not certain where the attack would be made, at Shiloh or Crump's Landing, where Lew Wallace with his division lay. On the 4th of April the General was injured by his horse failing upon him and spraining his ankle, so that he had

to go on crutches. He was assured by his subordinates that all was quiet on the front so far as the enemy were concerned. On the 5th, learning that a division of Buell's army, under Nelson, had arrived at Savannah, Grant ordered them to move up the east bank of the river so as to be ferried over at either Crump's or Pittsburg Landing, as the occasion might

Since his return from the reconnaissance recorded in our last chapter, Colonel Mason had been in his camp and had seen nothing of the enemy. He was a changed man, and spent most of his spare time alone in his firing. tent gloomily brooding over the last dangerous interview with the negro, Black-

dies," haunted him day and night. "Who is he, and what does he know of "His words, 'I kin teil ve mo' 'bout yourse'f dan ye knows, massa!' ring still in my ears. What is it he knows-oh! what is it?" His last interrogatory was uttered with a sigh from the uttermost depths of his troubled heart. Ah! what a longing possessed his soul. A longing to know the history of that helpless babe found floating in its cradle down the turbulent Missouri. Picket firing and skirmishing at the front became a common thing. When a soldier was detailed for picket duty he went fully expecting to be fired upon before he re-

"Kill me, massa, and de secret ob yo' birj

turned. "Jist let 'em bang erway." said Bill Snow. as he lay in his tent, listening to the ocsional reports of muskets in the distant woods. skeered at 'n ow-el they're badly mis- sudden awakening, asked of some of his taken.'

"Wall, Bill, it mayn't be 'n ow-el by er long shot," said Arkansaw Tom, who was reclining on a pile of straw. "Yer don't think old Johnston or Price ar' comin' to tackle us, d' ye?" asked Bill.

"Let um come." "Not afore Buell gits here."

"Mought be."

"What d' we keer! Hain't we ernuff ter lick um?" "Wall, we'd hev our hands full, ve kin bet. Bill. I'm ergoin' ter bet that we burn

powder afore we've been here a week

onger. "Been burnin' powder every day fur a week," said Ned, lazily shuffling a deck of well-thumbed cards. "Yes, 'n what does 't all 'mount to?"

them mullet heads who command th' army we'd a been in Corinth long ago." "Ye'll git ter Corinth soon ernuff, Max. Ned Cotton answered.

Donelson!"

We're not ergoin ter hev a walk over 's we moment drew nearer. did with Floyd 'n Piller. He'll do some o' the walkin' himse'f.' moment by the appearance of the Colonel. | tion, when he met General Prentiss. "I am going to the front, Tom, and want

getting rather dangerous up there now." "Yer bet we'll go," cried Tom, starting to his feet. The four men at once buckled on their accourrements and seized their They were all that Luke deemed neces-

frent, and they had not gone more than a in his life as the negro presented. He was mile and a half before they came upon the "If it was intended as a ruse they wouldn't Meeting some relieved pickets coming in the Colonel asked:

"How is it at the front?" "Haint seen a Johnny fur nour, but they

war a blazin' at us nearly all night." "Did they seem very strong?" "Wail, they made it mighty hot, part of

the time.' "Of course you have no idea as to their numbers. "No, but I believe they're more 'n the Ginerals think.

With his slender guard the Colonel moved on. Suddenly there came a distant shot in | in the morning to reconnoiter. They had wild life, and then she brought as the negro, and hurling the broken hilt the woods. It was followed by three or into the black's face, he closed in on him | four more in quick succession, and they and, whipping out his revolver, struck Black- saw the smoke issuing from a bunch of chaff before a whirlwind, bringing their hawk such a blow on the head with the butt | bushes two or three hundred yards away. Like experienced Indian scouts, creeping from tree to tree, and bush to bush, taking to cover their retreat. These were forced advantage of every thing that would screen them from view, Colonel Mason and his faithful guard made their way to where fiv for your life. That negro will kill you five Union soldiers were crouched behind a cers were now seen galloping up and down large oak tree, at the side of a sixth who their lines encouraging their men by words had been pierced by a musket ball. "Is he hard hit!" asked the Colonel, com-

ing upon the group. "He's dyin'," one of his comrades an-

swered It was needless to ask any further questions about him. Those glassy eyes, that become necessary, to preserve his own gaping mouth, the quick gasping for breath life. The negro noticed him, and in a deep, and death rattle in his throat were evidence, that life was ebbing away. With each painful gasp there came a gush of blood from the wound in his breast.

"Joe, Joe, can't yer speak t' me!" said a



"JOE! JOE! JUST ONE WORD." It was a lifelong friend who entreated him to utter just one word of recognition, and send some word of comfort to loved ones at

home. But no word was spoken. Those

ears were deadened to all sounds, or that

tongue had not the power of speech. "Joe,

The day on which Colonel Mason returned | solid comfort to bereaved Iriends-now to camp was the last of March. From that | many hearts it has lightened in the ages | they tried to carry the dead and wounded time on to the 6th of April skirmishing along past, and how many it will continue to to the rear, but so closely were they the front was almost continuous. On the lighten in the ages to come, no one but an pressed that they were forced to give up 1st the rebel cavalry became bold and ap- all-wise Father in Heaven will ever know. the plan. Again was Luke's horse killed advance of some kind was contemplated. utter a word. Already his gasps grew The rebels charged. His men were fall-

"When you are reheved carry miles out from the line. The Confederates | With his faithful body-guard he moved

on among the trees and bushes. Suddenly there came a sharp report from behind a tree not over a hundred and fifty paces away, and a bullet came zip through the cap of the Colonel, so near his skull as to stag-

"Are ye hurt, Kernel?" cried Tom. "No. Down on the ground, every one of you! There are sharpshooters over there!" In a moment the men were prone upon the earth and taking advantage of such

shelter as they could find. "Chaw me up 'f I don't spile the mug o' that critter," said old Arkansaw Tom. "Thar hain't been but one in all this ere deviltry 'n I'll stop him 'f he sticks his ugly mug out from behind that tree."

Arkansaw Tom lay behind an oak, where a projecting root afforded an excellent rest for his gun. They were near enough to the sharpshooter to hear him ramming a charge home in his gun.

A few moments later a face was seen to peep around the tree. All was still as death, but that unerring Springfield rifle of Arkansaw Tom was leveled on the face. A moment of breathless silence, and then came a deafening report and puff of smoke. When it had cleared away a dark form was seen lying at the root of the tree from behind which the bold sharpshooter had been

This was the only one of the enemy found at the front that day, and on the evening of hawk. Two sentences uttered by that dark the 5th Colonel Mason returned to his camp, man of mystery seemed to ever ring in his about as well satisfied as some of his superior officers that there was no danger of an immediate attack.

It was Saturday evening, and he laid down "Who is he, and what does he know of to peaceful slumbers hoping for a quiet me?" the puzzled officer asked himself. Sabbath. He retired late, and, being weary, slept soundly. When he awoke it was broad daylight,

and the tremendous roar of a storm of some

kind came to his ears. He soon discovered that it was the shouts of men, the rattle of musketry and boom of cannon, mingled with the long roll of the drummer. "Wake up, Colonel, for God sake!" cried one of his staff. "We are surprised. Johnston's whole army is upon us."

CHAPTER XVL A DAY OF DEATH AND CARNAGE. "Fall in! fall in!" officers were crying all along the line, and in response men were everywhere springing into ranks. "Is it an attack or a skirmish?" Luke.

"Ef they think I'm gwine ter git who was still somewhat bewildered at his

"It's Beauregard and Johnston's whole armies," replied the Major, who at this moment was hurrying by. The forest where Luke was quartered

was almost devoid of underbrush. The spring was a little backward and the leaves were not much larger than squirrels ears, while on many of the trees the buds were either only swollen just bursted, so that there was little to obstruct their view. The trees were turned a faint green by the young leaves and tender buds, and the earth had also received a light coat of ermine from the paint-brush of spring. A fourth of a mile in their front was what had once been a field, though every remnant of fence had disappeared. A few white denuded snags and trees reared growled Max. "Nuthin'. Ef 't wan't fur | their pale forms into the air and extended

a ghost-like arm to the sky. The first thing Luke saw after coming out of his tent was a body of Union soldiers running toward them across the old field "We'd as well a had this war over six He also noted that the sun was just rising, months ergo as ter be foolin' an' dallyin' for the bare arms of the old snags were ow, didn't we go right inter Fort | here and there tipped with fire. Beyond the retreating soldiers was the roar of fire-"Yes, but old Sid Johnston warnt thar. arms and the yell of the enemy, which every Colonel Mason found his horse ready sad-

dled, and mounting, had started along his The conversation was cut short at this line to give his regiment a hasty inspec-"Is every man in line, Colonel?" the Genyou four to accompany me," he said. "It's eral cried.

"I think so." "We'll need them." "It's a general attack, then?"

"Yes. A shell thrown by the enemy came whizzing and shricking through the air, sary for the reconnaissance. They were all glipping off great branches of trees as if on foot, as a horseman would be a too-con- they had been tender twigs. It exploded in spicuous mark for a sharpshooter. Colonel the air a few rods to the rear of General

Mason's regiment was out on the extreme | Prentiss and his staff. "It's no sham," said the General, coolly, be sending such metal as that among us." Loud shouts were heard on the left, fol lowed by the galloping of horses and thunder of wheels, and turning his eves in that "Been quiet fur nour," one of the guards direction Luke saw three batteries coming up and unlimbering.

General Prentiss galloped away to give personal directions to the gunners, leaving Luke alone with his regiment. "Be brave; the day depends on you. Remember your homes, your country, and let every soldier do his duty," shouted Colonel

Mason, galloping along his line. The mass of fleeing soldiers proved to be a part of Colonel Dave Moore's regiment. which General Prentiss had sent out early gone until they struck the main line of the enemy, and were hurled backward like wounded Colonel with them. Several thousand skirmishers had been hastily deployed back, reinforced, and still driven back, until they struck the main line of battle and threw it into momentary confusion. Offi-

and acts. But down upon them like an avalanche, or some tremendous oncoming thunderstorm, the resistless horde of rebels

"Steady! steady! boys! Remember the old flag!" cried Colonel Mason. Whiz, whiz, zip, zip! come the bullets all about him, and now and then the branches and young foliage from the trees, out by the speeding shots, fell on the heads of the soldiers. One poor fellow who was standing in his ranks suddenly clasped his hand over his heart and wilted down like a suddenly clipped flower. Another seized his leg in his hands and hopped away to the rear.

entire day; but the line still presented an almost unbroken front. Two regiments had fied entirely, and there were thousands of skulkers from others hastening to the river, but still the rebels found a solid fron' when they came. Colonel Mason urged upon his men the

It was one of the most trying times of the

necessity of holding their fire until the enemy were near enough to make it effective, but when the bullets fell like hail among them most of them began to return it. The Colonel's horse reared, plunged into the air and fell dead. The rider was in a moment on his feet The whole line was now a sheet of flame

and column of smoke. Some one brought him another horse, which he mounted and took up his position at the rear of his regiment a few rods away to watch their maneuvers. Men were falling, and the entire line was now enwrapped in flame and smoke, while the rebel harde was pressing on with resistless fury. A shell exploded at the feet of the Colonel's horse, and the poor beast sank dying to the earth. He sprang from the saddle, and one of his staff brought him another steed.

While galloping down the line sword in hand a grape shot struck the blade, breaking it off close to the hilt. Crash upon crash Joe, jest one word; tell me yer prepared t' | cf cannon was added to the continuous roar of small arms, and the air became thick Ay, that one word-that precious word of with smoke. The ground was literally cov- the occasion of his first shock. ered with dead and dving. For awhile

> mortally wounded on the field and the Major was killed, so their duties devolved upon himself and staff.

[TO BE CONTINUED.

FASHION LETTER.

Attractive Autumn Novelties in Great Variety-Advantages of Early Buying. [Special New York Correspondence.] The importers' windows and counters are already aglow with autumn novelties, some of them so alluring that they would tempt the most prudent of women to be reckless ly extravagant, buying right and left, and

not ceasing in her purchases until her pocket-book failed her. One thing greatly in favor of early buying is that the elegant exhibit is unbroken in its variety, and there is every thing new and fresh to choose from. Among the leading fabrics are various attractive and beautiful camel's hair twills both heavy and light, English serge diagonals, Imperial serges, Clairettes and superb India and French cashmeres Fancy suitings are shown in profusion, but solid colors will prevail among the most stylish gowns for the autumn and winter seasons. There will be far less of combimembers. In 1888 \$17,072,035 profit nation effects in gowning, and the rule will be an elegant costume in monochrome handsomely bordered, or with a special design woven to accompany each dress pattern. Smoothly-faced ladies' cloth fabrics are brought out, with woven borders of stripes along the selvage, some of them showing wide lines in black on grounds of green, blue and rust-colored cloths. In the figured materials are

very many new plaids and stripes of immense size, these mostly in the rough, yet very soft, pliable cheviots. Very few of the genuine showy Tartans are seen, the colors being chiefly in softer Madras tints and there are also brought out among the choicer novelties in these textiles some very delicate wools with a lustrous silk material in Madras colors thrown upon the surface. These plaids do not show a gay mingling of many colors, but each pattern combines but two shades with very artistic effect, for instance; pine yellow

and myrtle green, gray and green, olive and old rose, copper and coffee brown, etc. There are also for children's dresses gay bars of gold color, or Roman red, crossing grounds of black or deep Russian blue. All of the lovely tints of lilac and heliotro; e are suddenly restored to their old-time popularity and some of the new dyes shade The effective and stylish union of black

exquisitely into faint tints of old rose. and red appears in many of the vouthful toilets prepared for the autumn season. Red crepe de chine for example, is made up with black point d'esprit, and vivid Hungarian red is vailed with black marquise lace, the skirt slightly raised at the left

side but falling straight elsewhere. A black gauze fan, black silk hose and Spanish sandals of black kid are en suite. The shades of old of silk, wool and vel-In evening with tulle, this lovely color imparts a delicious glow to the complexion of either blonde or brunette. voice of the charming French challi fabrics - these intended for pretty afternoon gowns dar-

newly-imported patterns closely copy those of foulard silks and rich Pompadour brocades, and on darker grounds of green, olive, beige, etc., are small, brilliantlycolored devices in Persian dyes and patterns. These materials, when made up, form really elegant dresses, both in Directoire and Empire styles, and appear with straight skirts and remarkably pretty bodices, also in combination with plain China silk and added trimmings of old mahogany, peach color or black velvet. Easy gowns, demi-trained princesse dresses and dainty breakfast robes are also made of these light but protective materials, these sim ply finished with collars and cuffs of velvet.

The newest white Ursuline and Clairette gowns show either trimmings of fine white and gold passementerie, they have old rose, strawberry, black or other colored borderings, or they are uniquely made up with the new Madras silk plaids which combine only two rich colors, among these being the mixtures of orange and olive, salmon pink and linden green, and apricot and Roman red. The Empire, Grecian, Russian and Directoire models are four distinct types in dress that are to equally prevail in favor, but the variations upon these are bewilderin and beyond all de scription. Pictur-

esque effects will obtain very largely, even in stylish promenade and visiting gowns. Sleeves have reached such a degree of art as to approach the grotesque in many instances. Other models, however, are the

height of grace and novel elegance. The Spanish mantle is worn with dressy toilets of every description. Dark velvet capotes are worn with the cream-white wool costumes. These show all of the fluffy front hair, they are so diminutive, and are trimmed with scarlet berries, fine mauve wild flowers, velvet autumn leaves and cream white velvet Margueritas with golden brown hearts. Stylish young ladies wear the open Spanish tackets of black or moss velvet over plaited shirt waists of red

or yellow silk. SOMEWHAT STRANGE.

George Freeman and wife, of Lathrop, Mo., have been married thirty years and are the parents of twenty-five children. A FARMER in Belmont County, O., states that a woodchuck and a black snake inhabit

the same hole in his clover lot and are apparently on the best of terms. Specimens of flexible stone have been quarried at Chattanooga, Tenn. It resembles fine sandstone, and when cut into fine strips it will sustain a curvature of sixty degrees without breaking or damage to the finer grains on the surface.

A nor of Lansing, Mich., some time ago

received a severe shock from lightning, and

ever since that, during every electric storm, the boy becomes unconscious and goes through nearly the same experience as on AT Svivanus, Ga., recently Frank M. Crimmon found a turkey nest on which a gobbler was sitting. On examination he found that the nest was filled, not with eggs, but with apples. Mr. McCrimmon has

found it a difficult matter to undeceive the A CITIZEN of Hartford, Conn., lost his arm under a car wheel, and did not know it until a policeman asked the cause of the accident. The man's nerves were perfectly numb, and he did not feel the pain. He was walking on the track whistling and leaving a trail of blood. He was rapidly bleeding to death without knowing it.

FOREIGN GOSSIF.

-American yellow pine is a great favorite for wooden pavements in Ber-

-The Russian language has been imposed upon all the inhabitants of the Baltic provinces of the empire.

-The electric conduits in Paris contain naked wires, insulated only by porcelain knobs, and are built under each sidewalk.

-It is said there are three hundred distinct dialects in China which differ from German. An attempt is to be made to unify them. ions in England containing 992,428 of the feet.

was made on sales amounting to \$183,-675,225. Of this sum \$125,100 was devoted to charity. -Next to England little Holland next to the greatest colonial power in the world. The Dutch colonies have much news from the outer world leaks an era of nearly 800,000 square miles,

which includes some of the finest possessions in the world. -The people of the County Down, in the North of Ireland, are the most prosperous in the North of Ireland next to those of County Antrim. Their farms are cultivated skillfully and every thing they produce brings good

prices. -A "poverty society" has been started in Russia, the object of which is to popularize poverty among the head, rises from the coil and stands poor, and to teach them that their lot is not one to be repined at, since the like, and artists who attempt to porfinest pleasures of life can be enjoyed tray it always fail. He does not purindependently of money.

-The English tenant farmer, says London correspondent, unlike his or the toad he leaves for days unnoticed Irish brother, does not cling to the in his cage. Larger or noisy creatures soil, or wait to be evicted when he finds rents too high. "He "leaves" are thrown far back, his mouth is incontinently, probably because he opened very wide, the fang held firmly makes it a rule to put no permanent erect, and with an abrupt swiftness,

improvements "on his farm. -There has not been a bank failure in China for nine hundred years. During the reign of the Emperor Hi Flung, an edict was issued that upon the given by throwing the head forward failure of a bank the heads of the pres- while the half-coils below it are ident, cashier and directors should be straightened out to lengthen the neck struck off and piled up in a corner and give power to the motions which with the assets. The edict has never drive the fangs into the opponent's been repealed, and Chinese bank-stock flesh; as they center, the temporal has continued to be above both par muscle closes the lower jaw on the

-The dried leaves of the cocoa plant, which is cultivated on the slopes of the Andes, form an important arti- duct is opened by the relaxation of the cle of internal trade among the various native tribes. It is estimated that same muscle which shuts the jaw rose grow mere and not less than 30,000,000 pounds are conmore beautiful as sumed annually. After the morning venom through the duct and bollow they appear in fabrics meal men and women alike take a fang into the bitten part. mouthful of the leaves mixed with a In so complicated a series of acts toilets of corded silk little lime; fresh leaves are added or China silk vailed throughout the day, and without any additional food the consumer is enabled

to do a hard day's work. -The Mount Morgan gold mine of may squirt the venom four or five feet Queensland has proved to be the rich- in the air, doing no harm. I had a There is a fresh in- est mine in the world. It is situated curious experience of this kind in on the range of a sheep ranch. It is an iron-stone hill in the midst of green long threw a teaspoonful or more of grass. A public road runs over the poison athwart my forehead. It missed mountain, and it was while repairing my eyes by an inch or two. I have ing the entire it that the gold was discovered. It had many near escapes, but this was was purchased for \$3,200, just \$5 an the grimmest of all. An inch lower acre, and the shares are now worth \$75,000,000. It is supposed to be an old geyser impregnated with gold. The metal is extracted by the chlorination process and costs but \$7.50 a ton.

THE SULTAN'S HAREM.

It is Mostly Recruited from Circassia and Georgia.

How many wives does he maintain: Well there are between two hundred and three hundred ladies in the harem, but only those who are mothers really hold the rank of wives. In the Sultan's harem, though, as in every other Turkish barem, for that matter, there is always one who is the favorite. She is virtually the Sultana, and she generally manages to keep the head of the household pretty well to herself. Turkish women are not much different from any other women in their leanings toward monopoly as regards the possession of a man. There are many women in the imperial harem A little Irishman who took care of my who have never exchanged ten words

with the Sultan. from Georgia and Circassia. Dealers girls from their parents at prices ranging from a few hundred to thousands they have been on the whole much of dollars. The price entirely depends | maligned. upon the appearance of the article. The poorer-looking girls are kept at some other female relative in whose or in asses, as his means will allow. Recently, I have been told, the installment plan of paying for a wife has been introduced with great success in Circassia. It enables a young man to se- snake staff is used to handle snakes. cure an article of better quality than

if he paid value down. The best-looking girls, however, all go to the brokers or dealers. Money harmless; but he refused, with welltalks in Georgia and Circassia just as acted horror, to permit me to take loudly as in London or New York. hold of them. He had also two large The girls thus purchased are handled | brown vipers; these he handled with with great care, and are disposed of at | care, but I saw at once that they were profits ranging from two hundred to kept exhausted of their venom by havthree hundred per cent in the mar- ing been daily teased into biting on a kets of Constantinople, Smyrna and bundle of rags tied to a stick. They

other large cities. In the higher realms of Turkish so- often seen snakes in this state. After ciety it is considered quite the hand- three or four fruitless acts of instinctsome thing to give a friend as a birth- ive use of their venom they give up. day present a plump young Georgian and seem to become indifferent to apor a pretty, fair-skinned Circassian.

Upon receiving a notification from the chief eunuch the dealer in wares from Georgia or Circassia is bound to give the imperial harem the first pick. son, but nobody would advance him a This picking is usually done by the cent if he had a dozen daughters.

chief enuch. ranks with a Field Marshal and receives | debts of her own husband. a salary equal to that of the Prime Minister. On his finger he wears dia-

on his royal master The eunuchs are usually recruited in shocking.

Upper Egypt, and are selected in early childhood for the career they are to is the bigger price he brings. A tall, well-developed, imposing-looking ennuch, with the requisite amount of swarthiness and ugliness, is worth from \$4,000 to \$5,000.

The eunuchs are required to keep strict watch over the harem, and to hold the inmates in order. They are pretty careful in their bearing toward those inmates who are mothers, and consequently have a certain rank, but from each other as much as French they frequently cuff and spank the other ladies, and upon occasion even resort to the bastinado, which consists -There are 1,500 co-operative un- of a whipping administered to the soles

In the harem the ladies spend their time in sipping chocolate, eating sweetmeats, playing cards and talking together. One would imagine that there was very little good for discussion among them, but it is strange how into these harems. Scandals and divorce cases which have taken place in European capitals are the favorite subjects of discussion.-Chicago Her-

THE RATTLESNAKE.

How Its Deadly Blows Are Delivered and Its Venom Injected.

Let us observe what happens when the rattlesnake means mischief. He throws himself into a spiral, and about one-third of his length, carrying the upright. The attitude is fine and warsue, he waits. Little animals he scorns unless he is hungry, so that the mouse alarm him. Then his head and neck for which his ordinary motions prepare one but little, he strikes once and is back on guard again, vigilant and brave. The blow is a stab, and is part struck, and thus forces the sharp fang deeper in. It is a thrust aided by a bite. At this moment the poison muscle which surrounds it, and the

there is often failure. The tooth strikes on tough skin and doubles back or fails to enter, or the serpent misjudges distance and falls short and which a snake eight feet six inches would have cost me my sight and

squeezes the gland, and drives its

probably my life. A snake will turn and strike from any posture, but the coil is the attitude always assumed when possible. The coil acts as an anchor and enables the animal to shake its fangs loose from the wound. A snake can rarely strike beyond half its length. If both fangs enter, the hurt is doubly dangerous, because the dose of venom is doubled. At times a fang is left in the flesh, but this does not trouble the serpent's powers as a poisoner, since numberless teeth lie ready to become firmly fixed in its place, and both fangs are never lost together. The nervous mechanism which controls the act of striking seems to be in the spinal cord, for if we cut off a snake's head and then pinch its tail, the stump of the neck returns and with some accuracy hits the hand of the experimenter-if he has the nerve to hold on. Few men have. I have not. laboratory astonished me by coolly sustaining this test. He did it by closing The harems are mostly recruited his eyes and so shutting out for a moment the too suggestive view of the rego into these districts and purchase the turning stump. Snakes have always seemed to me averse to striking, and

Any cool, quiet person moving slowly and steadily may pick up and home to supply the home demand. The | handle gently most venomous serpents. Georgian or Circassian young man I fancy, however, that the vipers and who wants a wife gets his mother, or the copperheads are uncertain pets. Mr. Thompson, the snake-keeper at judgment he has confidence, to select the Philadelphia Zoological, handles a wife for him from the local harems, his serpents with impunity; but one and he pays for her in sheep, in goats day, having dropped some little moccasins a few days old down his sleeve while he carried their mamma in his hand, one of the babies bit him and made an ugly wound. At present the

> I saw one October, in Tangiers, what I had long desired to observe-a snake charmer. Most of his snakes were were too tired to be dangerous. I have proaches, and even to rough handling. -Dr. G. Weir Mitchell, in Century.

-In China one can always borrow money on the strength of having a The former is responsible for the debt This official is a very important per- of his father for three generations. sonage in the Turkish empire. He The latter is only responsible for the

-American railways kill but one monds worth a King's ransom, and his out of 10,000,000 passengers carried. sable feet are kissed by postulants for Unfortunately they sometimes do killhis favor who seek to secure the indi- ing for 1,000,000,000 passengers in one rect influence which he can exert up- accident, which makes the casualties seem greater in number and more